

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract as shown below, in which deleted terms are shown with strikethrough and added terms are shown with underscoring.

ABSTRACT

~~The present invention provides a~~ A line-illuminating device which is resistant to shrinkage problems caused by repetition of heating and cooling. ~~The line-illuminating device 10~~ ~~is comprised of~~ includes a white casing [[12]] made of polycarbonate or the like, a light guide [[11]] made of an acrylic resin or the like and accommodated in the casing [[12]] such that the light-emitting surface [[11a]] thereof is exposed, and light-emitting elements (for example, light-emitting diodes) [[13]] as a light source provided on both ends of the casing [[12]] so as to abut against the end surfaces of the light guide [[11]] without a gap. The casing [[12]] is divided into two portions in the longitudinal direction, and a gap [[14]] is formed between the two divided portions [[12a]]. With this gap, even if the light guide [[11]] shrinks due to repetition of heating and cooling, the divided portions [[12a]] can effectively shrink together with the light guide [[11]] via the gap, and the abutting state between the end surface of the light guide [[11]] and the light-emitting element [[13]] can be maintained.